

CHARLES EDWIN AND MARIA PRICE THACKER

Charles Edwin Thacker was born August 18, 1862, in Salt Lake City, son of William and Rachel Tonks Thacker. He married Maria Rawlins Price on November 29, 1882, in the Endowment House, ceremony by Daniel H. Wells. She was born August 22, 1864, at Ash Hollow, Nebraska, in a wagon on the way to Utah, daughter of James and



BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS



Ann Powell Price Jr. Charles died June 8, 1933, and Maria died July 28, 1937, at Charleston.

His parents homesteaded at Smithfield, in Cache Valley, and in Summit County before coming to Wasatch County in 1871, where they took up a homestead in Buysville.

Charles often told of herding their cattle on the grassy hills near Daniel and other chores performed by pioneer children.

When he was 19 years old he became very ill and had to have a lot of nursing. One of those who helped was Maria Rawlins Price, a lovely brown-haired girl with beautiful brown eyes. She was a daughter of James Price Jr. and Ann Powell, and was born while her parents were coming to Utah in a wagon train. The train stopped in Ash Hollow, Nebraska, long enough for her to make her appearance on August 22, 1864, and then wound on the long journey to Great Salt Lake Valley. She was named Maria Rawlins for the captain of the wagon train, Joseph S. Rawlins.

Maria and Charles were married in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City by Daniel H. Wells, on November 29, 1882. They lived in Buysville several years, where Charles farmed and worked at various jobs available. He was fond of working with oxen and was a great trader in horses, mules, oxen and range cattle, and always had some around. He owned and worked 10 yoke of oxen (two head) at one time. He took timber contracts at the Park City mines when they were booming, camping there for two or three summers in the mountains above Park City, and furnished timbers for the mines, along with other men from Heber.

He had a deep love for the mountains, so he bought a shingle mill and took his little family to the mountains to run it.

DANIEL BIOGRAPHIES

Many of the shingles on the homes in Heber Valley came from his mill. He had an interest in a business in the Teton Basin in Idaho at one time, but he always returned to Wasatch.

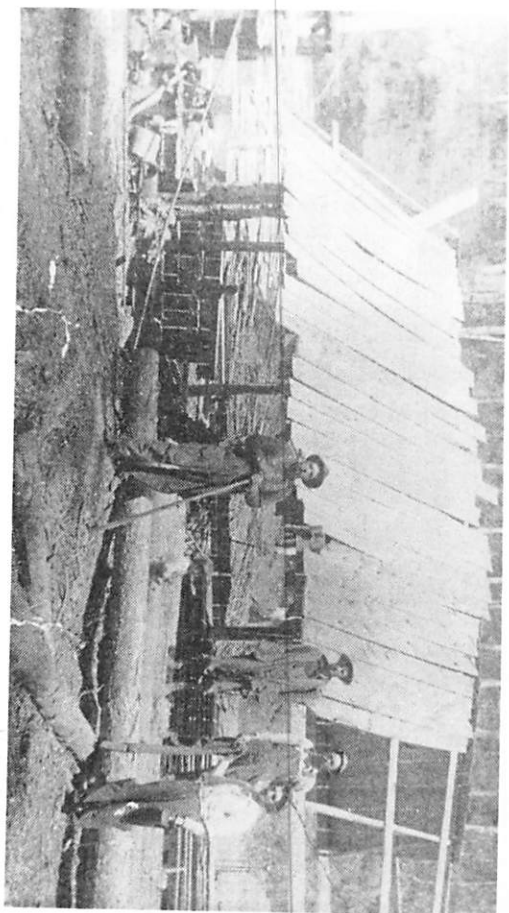
Charles and his brother Fred bought a ranch on Blacks Fork, Wyoming, at one-half interest apiece, that Dr. Brewster, doctor at Ft. Bridger when the soldiers were there, had bought and built a large two-family home on. Mrs. Charlie Handley of Ogden owned the ranch and had been leasing it out. Charles also owned and operated a sawmill on Sage Creek, Wyo., west and north over the mountains from Henrys Fork. He took a contract from the Bell Telephone Co. to furnish 30 miles of poles from Carter Station on the Union Pacific Railroad to Lone Tree, Wyo. It was a big job, red pine poles 25 feet long and 8 inches at the tip. The poles had to be cut and peeled by hand with axes. It was grueling work. Took two years for that job along with the sawmilling. This was the first telephone line in that country. Messages were delivered by horseback until the line was put in.

His own son, Dave, hauled more of those poles than anyone else, with four horses. Scattered them along the entire 30 miles. Fifty-five years later, in the fall of 1958 Dave visited this line and some of those poles are still standing. Some have been braced and some replaced.

After returning from Wyoming he owned and operated a sawmill in Daniels Canyon and Strawberry Valley.

In 1899, they were living in Charleston when the railroad came to Wasatch County. The right of way went through the home of Charles and Maria's, or "Aunt Nina's," as she was affectionately called. The railroad company bought their property and they went to Bridger, Wyoming, where they purchased Fred's one half of the ranch on Black's Fork. After about four years they sold their ranch in Wyoming and returned to Charleston in 1903 where they began sawmilling in Daniel Canyon.

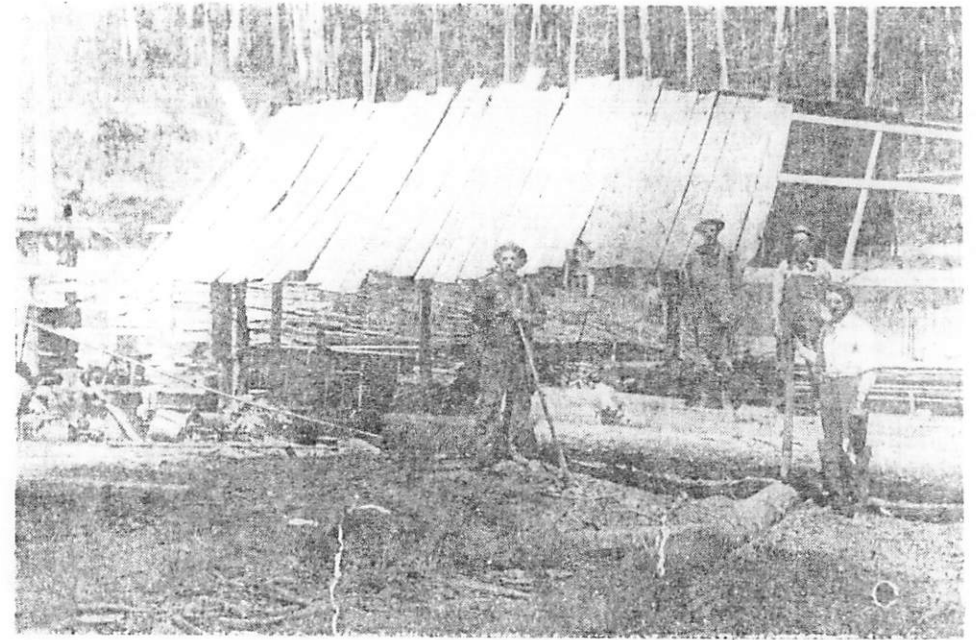
These people were good, kindly people and they gave many a weary traveler a meal and a bed. They also took care of their aging parents and raised several children besides their own large family of 13, 10 of whom they reared to maturity. They were beloved by all who knew them, especially their children and grandchildren.



Charles Edwin Thacker's Saw mill

²⁰Journal History, June 6, 1858, p. 2.

²¹Crook, "History of Wasatch County," op. cit., p. 7.



Thacker's early sawmill: Charles Thacker standing center and John M. Thacker right rear. "Under Wasatch Skies" p. 126

Thacker Oxen names "Broad" & "Turk"

Thacker's horse team names "Lud" & "Bell" in 1911.

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Thacker's early sawmill: Charles Thacker standing center and
John M. Thacker right rear. "Under Wasatch Skies"
East of present Ranger Station? p. 126

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Thackers had sawmills also near Sugar Springs
& one by Webb Knolls; & one on Willow Creek
in 1911.

Horse Team names "Bird" & "Bell"
& "Cap" & "Dick"